BULLETIN

No. 184 May 1974

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Club's Address - G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting will be held in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, on Thursday, May 16th, at 7.45.p.m.

SPEAKER

The President will present the "Easter Camp Review".

NEXT OUTING

LEADER - The President
MEET - by the Prince Theatre.- Private Transport.
DATE - Saturday, May 18th.
TIME - 10.a.m.
DESTINATION - Mt. Field National Park.
(If we are lucky, there might still be left some of the Autumn Fagus at Lake Fenton).

FIVE MINUTE TALK

-next meeting will be by Miss K. Jordan.

THE TASMANIAN NATURALIST

Articles for August issue should be received by the 10th July. This is a reminder to those who have promised articles - and an invitation to others.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Have you paid your dues for 1974????????????????

OLD NUMBER OF "THE ILLUSTRATED TASMANIAN MAIL CHRISTMAS NUMBER" December 4, 1929.

A copy of this has come into the hands of the Secre It includes article "Bird Music" by M.S.R.Sharland, and features many old Tasmanian buildings, includin Woolmers; the Launceston 'Floods'; some Tasmanian nature scenes taken by H.J.King; "A City Garden" - (behind Mr. Maurice Susman's office in Murray Stree and various V.I.P.'s of the day. You may see this book on the table at the next meeting - and compare 'then' and 'now!

(Even the advertisements have their appeal!)

LAST OUTING Saturday, April 20th, 1974.

Not an ideal day for pottering on the mountain as clouds were down over the summit and descended lower as the day went on. About a dozen people turned up.

A stop was made at the Springs and the area which has been planted with selected natives by the Conservation Trust was investigated. Fortunately perhaps for their survival, they are not easily seen by the casual visitor and it was quite exciting to find such a rarity as Geum renifolium doing well.

Exploration on the summit moor was impractical because of the mist, so we descended to near the Mt. Arthur bend where we found that a number of mature specimens of Podocarpus alpina have survived the 1967 fire. It had been hoped to extend the search over a bigger area to see if Podocarpus occurs elsewhere than this small area, but again the mist prevented this. We then came down to the Panorama shelter shed for lunch and then walked down to the Springs by the Organ Pipes track. We were very happy to find considerable regeneration of Richea dracophylla and Telopea truncata under the Organ Pipes where these plants flowered so beautifully before the last two big fires. Also there was extensive regeneration of the Mt. Wellington-Dromedary endemic Senecio centropappus. The dwarf 'rain forest' of Nothofagus cunninghami - myrtle - was also recovering slowly.

We should repeat this outing in the late spring on a sunny day!

H. Kelsey Aves.

ART EXHIBITION and FILM EVENING.

The North-East Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club are to hold this on Wednesday, May 22nd, 1974, at Scottsdale. Amongst paintings will be some from the late H.J.King, the late Mr. C. Lawrence, Mrs. Stephanie Dean, prints of original paintings by John Gould, BHP Illustration from the Stanley & Kay Breeden Sketchbook and others. There is a competition for students - any artform on paper. All Nature subjects - followed by Film Evening.

THE AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION.

This is a national non-profit organisation set up in 1965 to promote the understanding and practice of conservation.

Its governing body is a council elected by its thousands of members from all States and from all sections of the community.

It is financed by membership subscriptions and gifts, and is supported by a grant from the Australian Government to offset the costs of operation of its Secretariat.

The activities of the ACF are intended to complement not compete with, those of governmental and other environmental organisations.

Specific examples are the Great Barrier Reef, conservation of kangaroos and other fauna, protection of national parks and reserves, the urban environment and legislation affecting conservation.

You can support the ACF and its work by becoming an ordinary member. This will entitle you to voting rights, a regular Newslatter and an Annual Report. By paying an additional small voluntary levy you will receive all future publications produced by the ACF.

If you are under 21, or a student, you can become an Associate Member; this category carries no voting rights. Associate Membership is also available for member of a family in which one person is already a member.

Conservation Societies, schools, local government authorities, or groups with kindred conservation interest are invited to join the ACF as Member Bodies, with full voting rights.

Within your own particular region, or State, the conservation movement needs your membership support. But this alone is not enough. Only a national body is large enough to have the facilities - including the professional staff - necessary for a task which embraces a whole continent.

Thus, you need also to join the only national body covering the whole conservation field - the ACF.

The greater the membership, the greater its influence on the decisions being taken in Australia in 1974.

A.C.F. SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

$5. sub. Ordinary Member

$3. voluntary levy for all future publications.

$2.50. Associate or Junior Member.

$200... donation election Life Member.

$5.00 Sub. for Member Body - who name their representative for voting rights.

$? - donation to the ACF.

N.B. Subs paid from April 1st carry through until June 30th the following year.

Special Note -

If you pay your sub through an organisation, that organisation is entitled to the first dollar of the sub, and remits the remaining $4 to the ACF from time to time when it has collected several subs.

Do you think this Club should take this up?

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The Secretary holds a number of forms.

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THE LITTLE PIGMY POSSUM (CERCARTETUS LEPIDUS) on Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

An article in The South Australian Naturalist Vol 48 No 3 says that, until 1964, they were thought to survive only in Tasmania, although fossil remains have been recorded from the mainland. However three specimens have been captured on Kangaroo Island. After thorough comparison between these, and Tasmanian specimens, it was revealed that there seems to be some degree of differentiation between the two populations. Kangaroo Island specimens seem to be very slightly smaller than ours, with slight differences in the shape of the ears. They conclude that the Kangaroo Island specimens are a mainland type and could not have been imported from Tasmania.

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